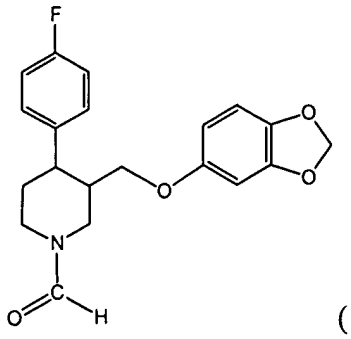
We Claim:

1. A compound or composition comprising N-formyl paroxetine of formula (1)



(1)

and 0 to 99.97% of a paroxetine compound, based on the combined weight of said N-formyl paroxetine and said paroxetine compound.

2. The compound or composition according to claim 1, wherein said compound or composition is a solid form.

3. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said compound or composition contains 0 to 5% paroxetine compound.

4. The compound according to claim 3, which consists of substantially pure and isolated N-formyl paroxetine.

5. The compound according to claim 4, wherein said N-formyl paroxetine is the trans-3S, 4R enantiomer.

6. The composition according to claim 1, which comprises 0.1% to 99.95% of said paroxetine compound.

7. The composition according to claim 6, which comprises 1% to 99.89% of said paroxetine compound.

8. The composition according to claim 7, which comprises 1% to 99.8% of said paroxetine compound.

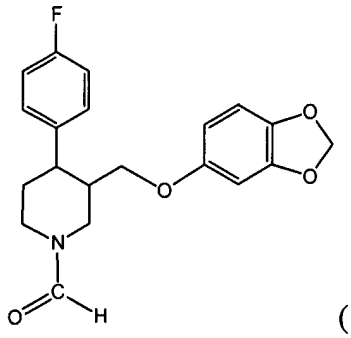
9. The composition according to claim 8, which comprises 10% to 99.7% of said paroxetine compound.

10. The composition according to claim 6,wherein said paroxetine compound is selected from the group consisting of paroxetine, paroxetine hydrochloride, paroxetine maleate, paroxetine acetate, and paroxetine mesylate.

11. The composition according to claim 6, which further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

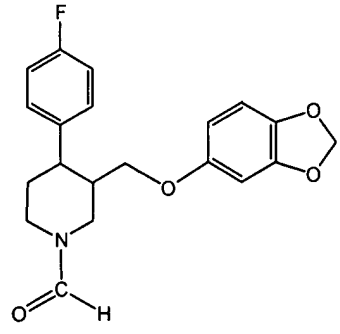
12. The composition according to claim 11, wherein said at least one excipient comprises a calcium phosphate.

13. A pharmaceutical composition for treating a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor-treatable disease or condition, comprising an effective amount of a paroxetine agent and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein said paroxetine agent consists of an N-formyl paroxetine compound of formula (1) and optionally a paroxetine compound:



(1).

14. A process which comprises treating an N-formyl paroxetine compound of formula (1)



(1)

with a de-formylation agent.

15. The process according to claim 14, wherein said de-formylation agent is an organic or inorganic acid.

16. The process according to claim 15, wherein said acid is selected from the group consisting of hydrochloric acid, acetic acid, formic acid, methane sulfonic acid, maleic acid, and tartaric acid.

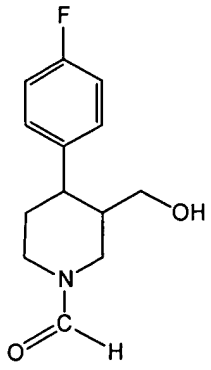
17. The process according to claim 15, wherein said de-formylation agent is a pharmaceutically acceptable acid and said treating step forms a corresponding pharmaceutically acceptable salt of paroxetine.

18. The process according to claim 17, wherein said treating step occurs in a solvent.

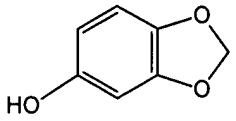
19. The process according to claim 18, wherein said acid is methane sulfonic acid and said treating step forms paroxetine methane sulfonate.

20. The process according to claim 18, wherein said acid is hydrochloric acid and said treating step forms dissolved and/or solid paroxetine hydrochloride.

21. The process according to claim 14, which further comprises coupling a compound of formula (2) with a compound of formula (3)



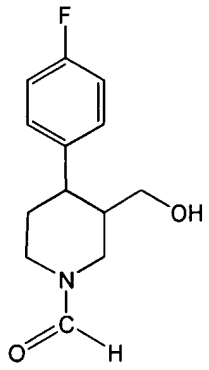
(2)



(3)

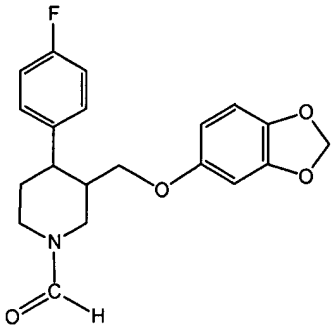
to form said N-formyl paroxetine compound of formula (1).

22. A compound having the formula (2):



(2).

23. A process for determining the stability or purity of a paroxetine substance or composition, which comprises assaying a paroxetine substance or composition for the presence of an N-formyl paroxetine compound of formula (1):



24. The process according to claim 23, wherein said paroxetine substance or composition is a paroxetine pharmaceutical composition.

25. The process according to claim 24, wherein said paroxetine pharmaceutical composition has been stored for at least three months before carrying out said assaying step.

26. The process according to claim 24, wherein said assay comprises the use of thin layer chromatography or high pressure liquid chromatography.

27. A process, which comprises

forming a production lot of paroxetine pharmaceutical solid dosage forms wherein each dosage form comprises paroxetine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient;

removing a sample of said paroxetine pharmaceutical solid dosage forms from said production lot;

assaying said sample for the presence and/or amount of N-formyl paroxetine; and

selling or releasing said production lot if said sample passes said assay with respect to the presence or amount of N-formyl paroxetine.

28. The process according to claim 27, wherein said sample passes said assaying step if the amount of N-formyl paroxetine does not exceed a predetermined upper limit.

29. The process according to claim 27, wherein said predetermined upper limit is the detection limit of said assaying step.

30. The process according to claim 27, wherein said paroxetine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt is selected from the group consisting of paroxetine, paroxetine hydrochloride, paroxetine maleate, paroxetine acetate, and paroxetine methane sulfonate.